

THE PACIFIC Commercial Advertiser?

WALTER G. SMITH - - EDITOR.

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In its Holiday number the Advertiser predicted an early decline in lumber prices, but it hardly expected that the thing would come to pass the next day.

Says The Friend in its record of current events: "The fight against them (local combinations in restraint of trade) begun by the Advertiser some months ago is apparently won." This is indeed true, but the honors of the victory are to be shared by District Attorney Baird, who took up the fight when it came his turn and carried it along legal lines.

The Holiday number of the Paradise of the Pacific is a surprise. Nothing finer in the typographical sense has ever been brought out in these Islands and the literary contents are timely and readable. There are forty-eight pages between embossed covers and a wealth of half-tone illustrations, the panoramic views of the Pali and Honolulu harbor being especially noticeable.

Here is real statesmanship! The Independent assures Delegate Wilcox that he need not fear for native land-holders under a municipality, as land taxes are not to be meddled with. Instead we are to have the Single Tax, which, as Henry George could have informed the Independent, is a tax on nothing but land; or a graduated income tax, such, perhaps, as the Supreme Court has pronounced unconstitutional and which proved a failure during the Civil War; or a special tax on sugar, which of course, could not be levied for municipal purposes on sugar produced outside the city limits. Viewing these brilliant suggestions we do not hesitate to nominate the Independent as the official organ of the Home Rule charter committee.

The anti-canal lobby is playing a deep game. One detachment of it is trying to sidetrack the Nicaragua bill and give the main track to the old Panama project which, it thinks, will be easy to switch off in turn. Another detachment is engaged in working up sentiment against the amended Hay-Pauncefote treaty, the defeat of which would leave the Clayton-Bulwer treaty in full force and effect, thus renewing an old obstacle to the progress of canal legislation. The third detachment is at work in Central America scaring the little republics with the bogie of American militarism entrenched in the proposed canal forts and menacing the liberties of the surrounding people. We already hear that Central Americans will band against the Nicaraguan project; and we also hear that there will be no canal legislation in this Congress. Possibly both forecasts are correct. It is no light thing even for Congress to try and combat the power of the railroads.

An uprising of the taxpayers in favor of municipal government might be inferred from the headlines of a contemporary, but the text, as usual, does not bear that impression out. Of the people quoted, David Dayton is only in favor of a city system if there is money enough in sight to pay for it. Capt. C. J. Campbell thinks it would be a great mistake to ask the next Legislature for a charter. H. M. Dow says the "time is not yet ripe." Naturally enough Charley Creighton wants any kind of a new deal which may down the missionary or, as he says, destroy "centralized power." We are not informed of the amount of taxes paid by Charley but he evidently doesn't care if they are increased an hundred per cent, which is quite public-spirited of him. J. M. Kaneakua opposes municipal rule on the ground taken by Delegate Wilcox and Judge Kaulukou, namely that the poor people, owning a small patch of property, would get the worst of it. Dr. McGrew, as might be expected, is willing to have taxes raised if it will only prevent "a concentration of the affairs of the Government in the hands of the few—a state of affairs that we have had for many a long year." That is to say, Dr. McGrew does not particularly care if he has to put up something extra and if everybody else has to, providing the authority of the men he does not personally like is lessened. Willie Crawford, the imitation Chinaman, Johnnie Wilson and Harry Evans feel the same way. All this can hardly be called an uprising of the taxpayers, seeing how carefully the representatives of millions on the one hand and of hundreds on the other are left out; and how much stress is laid on the opinions of those who merely want a charter for vague purposes of revenge.

The Independent prints some facts about the three funerals which occurred at the new Pearl City burying ground on January 1st, touching especially the manner in which the cemetery people did their part, which are worth republishing:

When everything gets in running order we have no doubt that the new cemetery at Pearl City will be an acceptable burying ground. At the "three-cornered" funeral Wednesday several annoying defects were noticed, but in due time they will be remedied. There was only one wagon for the conveyance of the bodies from the train (the funeral car being appropriately named Charon) to the graves and while one "departed" was being attended to the others had to endure a tedious wait. It was too much like in a barber shop where men sit listlessly scowling at each other and waiting for the welcome word "Next!" The man who pulls the wagon should be dressed properly and throw some dignity in the exercise of his function. It is not pleasant to see the remains of those you loved in this world being hauled along by an Asiatic in dirty working clothes. It jars on the feelings of those who see something solemn and yet beautiful in the ceremony attending the laying away of the clay of our beloved. It takes the poetry out of the situation by having a Japanese sweating Charon in dirty clothes asking for toll before his boat with rubber tires, which fall off, crosses the Styx. The graves prepared for the three coffins brought down were too narrow at the bottom and there was a delay while the error was rectified. We mention simply these matters in the interest of the Hawaiian Cemetery Association which undoubtedly wishes to see in its power to suit the peculiar ideas and sentiments of the public.

There is not very much to add to the foregoing except that a repetition of these offenses will be a great advantage to any other corporation, with some respect for the conventionalities, that may choose to open a cemetery.

M E U DOLE.

Another one of the sensational bubbles blown from the dream pipe of the anti-Dole press has been pricked by the Federal Department of Justice. For months past these journals have been "in a position to know," and have been "assured by high authority," and have congratulated the public on the suits to be brought by the Government to annul the land sales made in Hawaii between July 7, 1898, and September 30, 1900. The Advertiser never believed in the probability of such action and often said so with the result that the anti-Dole organs expressed high disdain of its news facilities.

Now comes the autographic approval by President McKinley of these sales and the official statement of the Department of Justice that "the Act of April 30, 1900, continues in force 'the laws of Hawaii relating to public lands' and thereby provides a system whereby the public lands of those Islands may be disposed of until Congress shall otherwise provide." Moreover, as a concrete example of the meaning of the Government's construction of the Organic Act, the Olua squatters are denied the rights usurped by them and the application of J. E. Hines and others to approve their staying on the pre-empted lands is disallowed.

The anti-Dole editors and the Olua squatters may now pass through the east door to view the remains.

MILK ADULTERATION.

The usual farce has been enacted in the police court in an attempt to convict one Lambo, a driver for Magoon's Star Dairy, of selling adulterated milk. The prosecution was prepared with evidence that the milk had been tampered with but the court held that, as Lambo had not received money for the fluid but had merely delivered it for others who got the pay, he could not be held responsible. It was upon some such technicality that Magoon got one of his drivers free several months ago, and as the dairy company itself is not prosecuted, it looks as if the growing milk-and-water industry of Honolulu was bound to flourish.

The law applying to such cases is as follows:

Chap. 55, Sec. 770. Any person who shall sell, or offer for sale, any milk which has been adulterated by the addition of water or other substance; or from which the cream has been skimmed or separated, unless the same is specifically or openly stated to be skimmed milk, shall be fined not more than fifty dollars. Any police officer or agent of the Board of Health shall have power to inspect any milk sold or offered for sale, and to confiscate any adulterated milk which he may find.

We hope the Legislature in its wisdom will amend Sec. 770 to read somewhat as follows:

Any person, firm or corporation that shall sell, or expose or offer for sale, or cause to be distributed, any milk which has been adulterated by the addition of water or other substance, etc., shall, upon conviction, suffer the loss of the license under which such person, firm or corporation is doing business. And any employee convicted of delivering adulterated milk shall be fined not less than fifty dollars or be imprisoned for ten days or both.

A law framed on those lines and strictly enforced would put an end to one of the meanest of the prevalent swindles of which the people of this city are the victims.

We are not sure but that something vigorous might be done now under the concluding paragraph of Sec. 771, reading as follows:

... and to confiscate any adulterated milk which he may find.

Why is it not practicable for agents of the Board of Health under this clause to intercept milk wagons all over town and make the test then and there for adulterants? The test, which may be made with a small pocket device, would not cause much loss of time, and would enable the Board to prevent the delivery of milk that is below the recognized standard of purity. When Inspector Dockery was doing this sort of thing in San Francisco he compelled all the milkmen to deal fairly with their customers and the results included an appreciable fall in the death rate among infants.

The Board of Health does well to avoid, as far as possible, the custom of going into executive session whenever any subject of marked importance to the public is before it. Propensity to secrecy in official matters became a crying abuse under the Monarchy and it was much too common under the Provisional Government and the Republic. The five years' contract which the book trust enjoyed here to the detriment of the schools of Hawaii, was given it by the Board of Education at a secret, black and midnight meeting in 1894 or 1895. Publicity would have killed the scheme and that is why it was avoided. Fair play to those who pay the public bills and who have the right to be heard before final action is taken in matters gravely affecting their interests, requires that the officials of Hawaii, from the highest to the lowest, should do the people's business in the open. "If not, why not?"

The proposal to include all Oahu in the city limits of Honolulu is one of the glorious possibilities apart from the taxation of the planters. When the alderman from Waialua arises and demands that the sewers be extended to his balliwick and the alderman from beyond the Pali moves to increase the size of the reservoirs there and to add to the number of arc lights, and the aldermen from Koko Head and Barber's Point engage in a wordy debate over street paving, then will our people feel what it is to live in a city of greater area than London. Hilo will also feel encouraged to absorb the Island of Hawaii and beat the joint dimensions of London, Paris and New York.

The Advertiser proposes to make it warm all along the line for the vendors of adulterated milk and would be pleased to receive samples of milk delivered to customers which may give evidence of having been tampered with. The name of the dairy and, if possible, that of the driver of the delivery cart, should accompany the samples. If the swindled milk buyers will put incriminating evidence in our hands it will be used to the best advantage. The trusts have gone; the milk-and-water peddlers must go.

One of the arguments for a municipality is that it would enable places like the Orpheum to run without a trade license. In fact the tax-lifters promise to lift licenses from about everything except the saloons and to reduce the cost of license among them.

Who is to pay the bills of city administration in case there are to be no special sources of revenue? The people? Why, of course. That is what the people are for.

The unwillingness of the Port Physician to go out and inspect the America Maru last evening and the refusal of the captain of the ship to deliver nines and correspondence until his vessel had received a clean bill of health, accounts for the failure of the public to receive the latest telegraphic news in this morning's Advertiser.

Judge Humphreys declares that he has no confidence in Chinese guardians. This hardly seems filial.

OF CURRENT INTEREST.

New York to San Francisco.

For 5 cents the round trip a New York boy may ride to San Francisco and back. At least so reads the sign. The distance is 3,630 miles. He may pass through Baltimore, 180 miles; Buffalo, 450 miles and sundry other cities and of the way. The locomotives are about a foot and a half high, with ten-inch drivers, and boilers three feet in length. They are genuine coal burners and look like real Baldwin's. The engineer, sometimes a man of 160 pounds, sometimes a boy in gold lace and blue fatigue uniform, sits upon the tender, but operates the machinery in a real cab. When he pulls upon the throttle, off she goes, puffing through the tunnel and hissing through the cylinder cocks just like 999. Two passengers ride in a car, facing each other. There are six cars in each train, and a conductor goes along to collect fares. The track is about fourteen inches wide, at a guess, and is made of real T iron, weighing about twenty-five pounds to the yard. Ten miles an hour is an easy gait. The real journey is along the base of Central Park wall, from the conservatories to One Hundred and Tenth street and return, skirting the eastern shore of the Harlem mere.

Bafts of Roses for Rockefeller.

A short distance from Hunt's Corners, in Broome county, N. Y., is the Rockefeller homestead and the school-house, where the millionaire received his primary education. Near by are several rose bushes. A short time ago one of the residents gathered a bouquet and sent it to Rockefeller as a reminder of his boyhood days. A \$10 bill was returned as an acknowledgment of the gift, and this has given an impetus to a new industry. That rosebush has been shipped, transplanted and forced until several hundred carefully tended roses are the result. These will be done up in bouquets by their various owners and shipped to millionaires at \$10 per bunch—that is, the donors will watch the mails for \$10 bills. Rockefeller's courtesy promises to result in a deluge of roses from his boyhood home.

For the Women's Benefit.

Canadian coins are a bugaboo to most people. They are foisted upon them by street car conductors and trades people who refuse to accept them themselves. Men can get rid of these coins more readily than can women. There are always fees to waiters, barbers and others, and in this way a man can work off his bad coin. But with women it is different. The proprietors of at least one big department store in Philadelphia have come to their rescue in their dilemma, and announce that all foreign money will be received at its face value. A Canadian dime, in this establishment, will go just as far as one of Uncle Sam's dimes, and even European money is accepted.

Talented American Girl.

Miss Kuehne Beveridge, who has arrived in London from Cape Town with two commissions for important works in sculpture, is not only a talented artist but a very beautiful girl in the bargain. Miss Beveridge was born in the executive mansion at Springfield, Ill., while her grandfather, John L. Beveridge, was Governor of the State. As a child she was educated abroad, chiefly at Dresden, where she studied the German language. Of Miss Beveridge, Gertrude Atherton recently said that in the fair Illinoisian "we have one of the most extraordinarily endowed girls that America has yet produced."

A Penny Puller.

A Washington street urchin has a novel game for getting pennies. He offers to guess in which hand you place a penny, he to forfeit a penny if he fails to guess correctly. He shuts his eyes while the penny is being placed. Then he rubs each of his middle fingers on the pavement and examines them closely. If the right finger is the blacker the penny is in the right hand, and vice versa. He rarely loses.

Greek Professor a Private Soldier.

Dr. Henry C. Bunn, professor of Greek and English literature in St. John's Military School at Manlius, N. Y., has enlisted as a private in the Twenty-third Regiment, United States Infantry, now at Manila. This is Professor Bunn's third attempt to join the regular army. He is a son of Rev. A. C. Bunn, D. D., rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity in the diocese of Long Island.

Big, Burly Britishers.

In the new British Cabinet the men, from a physical point of view, are splendid specimens of the race. Half of them are over six feet high and only one could be called small. The latest recruit, Mr. Hanbury, is the tallest, but Lord Balfour, of Burleigh, is a close second. The Premier carries more weight than any.

Profitable Publishing.

The latest balance sheet of Harmsworth Bros., Limited, London newspaper publishers, is interesting. The profits earned in one year are £250,623, and after £20,000 is written off for depreciation and £25,000 added to the reserve fund, there is margin for a 30 per cent dividend and a bonus of sixpence per share.

Disproportionate.

Census figures show that Des Moines, with a population of 62,133, has sixty-eight saloons, while Davenport, with but 35,254 inhabitants, has wet goods establishments to the number of 155.

M'KINLEY HOLDS

UP DOLE'S HANDS

(Continued from Page 1.)

tive approval, were so approved by the President.

"In this connection it is proper to add that the protest of J. E. Hines and twenty-one others against the approval of these sales and other dispositions were duly considered before favorable action was taken in the premises by the executive."

The Olua squatters must take their medicine and find other real estate on which Uncle Sam has not a strong hold.

"Waste Not, Want Not."

Little leaks bring to want, and little impurities of the blood, if not attended to, bring a "Want" of health. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the one and only specific that will remove all blood humors and impurities, thereby putting you into a condition of perfect health.

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